

Outline: Introduction to Metaphysics

Summary

What is there? Do holes exist? What is the fundamental structure of social groups? Does the present have a special nowness? What makes you as a person identical with you in ten years, if anything? These are some of the questions we will raise and address in this introduction to metaphysics. We investigate the most basic questions about reality with the tools of philosophy.

Outline

1. Session

Introductory Lecture. What is Metaphysics?

Part I: The Project of Ontology

2. Session

“On What There Is”, Willard V. Quine, *Review of Metaphysics* 2 (1): 21-38 (1948)

3. Session

“Meta-Ontology”, Peter van Inwagen, *Erkenntnis* 48 (2-3): 233–250, (1998).

4. Session

“Does Ontology Rest on a Mistake?”, Stephen Yablo, *Supplement to the Proceedings of the Aristotelian Society* 72 (1):229-262 (1998)

5. Session

“Existence questions”, Amie L. Thomasson, *Philosophical Studies* 141 (1): 63-78 (2008)

Part II: Puzzles of Ontology

6. Session

“The Identity of Indiscernibles”, Max Black, *Mind* 61 (242): 153-164 (1952)

7. Session

“Distinct Indiscernibles and the Bundle Theory” , Dean W. Zimmerman, *Mind* 106 (422): 305-309 (1997)

8. Session

“Holes”, David Lewis & Stephanie Lewis, *Australasian Journal of Philosophy* 48 (2): 206 – 212 (1970)

9. Session

“The Problem of the Many”, Peter Unger, *Midwest Studies in Philosophy* 5 (1): 411-468 (1980)

10. Session

“Many, But Almost One”, David Lewis, In Keith Cambell, John Bacon & Lloyd Reinhardt (eds.), *Ontology, Causality and Mind: Essays on the Philosophy of D. M. Armstrong*. Cambridge University Press. pp. 23-38 (1993)

Part III: Group Ontology

11. Session

“The Supreme Court and the Supreme Court Justices: A Metaphysical Puzzle”, Gabriel Uzquiano, *Noûs* 38 (1): 135–153 (2004)

12. Session

“The Metaphysics of Social Groups”, Katherine Ritchie, *Philosophy Compass* 10 (5): 310-321 (2015)

13. Session

“Social Mereology”, Katherine Hawley, *Journal of the American Philosophical Association* 3 (4) :395-411 (2017)

Part IV: Time

14. Session

Excerpt from “The Nature of Existence”, McTaggart, In Peter van Inwagen & Dean W. Zimmerman (eds.), *Metaphysics: The Big Questions*.

15. Session

“McTaggart’s Arguments against the Reality of Time”. An Excerpt from Examination of McTaggart’s Philosophy C.D. Broad, In Peter van Inwagen & Dean W. Zimmerman (eds.), *Metaphysics: The Big Questions*.

16. Session

“Temporal Experience”, L. A. Paul, *Journal of Philosophy* 107 (7): 333-359 (2010)

17. Session

“The Paradoxes of Time Travel”, David Lewis, *American Philosophical Quarterly* 13 (2): 145-152 (1976)

Part V: Personal Identity

18. Session

“Personal identity”, Derek Parfit, *Philosophical Review* 80 (January): 3-27 (1971)

19. Session

“Survival and Identity”, David Lewis, *Philosophical Papers Volume I*. Oxford University Press (1983)

20. Session

“People and Their Bodies”, Judith Jarvis Thomson, In Theodore Sider, John Hawthorne & Dean W. Zimmerman (eds.), *Contemporary Debates in Metaphysics*. Blackwell (2008)

21. Session

“Was Jekyll Hyde?”, Eric T. Olson, *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research* 66 (2): 328-348 (2003)

Part VI: Grounding

22. Session

“On What Grounds What”, Jonathan Schaffer In David Manley, David J. Chalmers & Ryan Wasserman (eds.), *Metametaphysics: New Essays on the Foundations of Ontology*. Oxford University Press. pp. 347-383 (2009).

23. Session

“Guide to Ground”, Kit Fine, In Fabrice Correia & Benjamin Schnieder (eds.), *Metaphysical Grounding: Understanding the Structure of Reality*. Cambridge University Press. pp. 37-80 (2012)

24. Session

“A Clarification and Defense of the Notion of Grounding”, Paul Audi, In Fabrice Correia & Benjamin Schnieder (eds.), *Metaphysical Grounding: Understanding the Structure of Reality*. Cambridge University Press. pp. 101-121 (2012)

25. Session

“No Work for a Theory of Grounding”, Jessica M. Wilson, *Inquiry: An Interdisciplinary Journal of Philosophy* 57 (5-6): 535-579 (2014)

26. Session

Debate: Solving Metaphysics